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ally by card, and the very small number of inquiries for missing parts show that there is practically no loss in the mail. A great advantage results in making known, at the earliest possible moment, the researches of those who make our pages valuable and the various zoological and other records are enabled to give an epitome of them within the year for which they are published.

Acknowledgment of the reception of our publications has been made, by sixty-three postal-cards and by seventy-three letters, the former all representing mail transmissions while a large number of the latter should be so counted. Letters of envoy number barely forty, being a decrease in number from past years due, doubtless, to the use of the mail in sending to us.

A pleasing indication is afforded by a portion of the correspondence from various parts of our country, desiring copies of our by-laws and asking for such information as will enable the formation of a society on the plan of our organization. These have been promptly answered and the future will doubtless show some results.

During the year three correspondents have been elected and notification has been promptly sent. Replies have been received from all where time has been sufficient to permit it.

The additions to the Museum have been numerous, and have been acknowledged by the Curator-in-Charge, as will be learned from his report.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE H. HORN, M. D.,

Corresponding Secretary.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

The annual statistics of the Librarian's report indicate that the year ending November 30, 1889, has been an unusually prosperous one in the department of the Academy of which he has charge. The additions received number 4,446, an increase of 489 over the growth of 1888 and of 1,066 over that of the preceding year. Six hundred and eighty volumes, 3,786 pamphlets and parts of periodicals and continued works and 26 maps are recorded.

They were received from the following sources :

Societies,	1842	Minister of Public Works, France,	3
Editors,	895	Geological Survey of Kentucky,	3
I. V. Williamson Fund,	815	Government of Victoria,	3
Miss Frances Lea,	295	Australian Government,	3
Authors,	186	U. S. War Department,	2
Prof. A. Heilprin,	58	Wm. W. Jefferis,	2
East Indian Government,	36	Geological Survey of Minnesota,	2
U. S. Department of the Interior,	34	Geological Survey of Portugal,	2
Wilson Fund,	28	Department of Mines, N. S. W.,	2
Thomas Meehan,	28	Geological Survey of N. J.,	1
U. S. Department of Agriculture,	28	University of Pennsylvania,	1
Purchased by special appropriation,	19	New York State Museum of Nat- ural History,	1
U. S. Department of State,	16	Pennsylvania State Board of Health,	1
John C. Sinclair,	16	State Mineralogist, California,	1
Stewart Culin,	15	Geological Survey of Texas,	1
Charles M. Betts,	13	Michigan Forestry Commission,	1
New York State Library,	12	J. H. Redfield,	1
U. S. Treasury Department,	11	Department of Mines, Nova Scotia,	1
U. S. Fish Commission,	10	Geological Survey of New Zea- land,	1
Geological Survey of Roumania,	9	Messrs. Tiffany & Co.,	1
H. B. M. Government,	7	Harold Wingate,	1
Geological Survey of Penna.,	5	Charles Morris,	1
Wm. John Potts,	5	Lewis Woolman,	1
Trustees of the British Museum,	5	Geological Survey of Canada,	1
H. A. Pilsbry,	5	Mrs. R. C. Taylor,	1
Henry N. Rittenhouse,	4		
Geological Survey of India,	4		
Engineer Department U. S. A.,	4		
Geological Survey of Finland,	4		

They have been distributed to the several departments of the library as follows :—

Journals,	3418	Encyclopedias,	17
Geology,	366	Mammalogy,	16
Botany,	153	Public Documents,	15
Conchology,	77	Ichthyology,	14
General Natural History,	76	Helminthology,	11
Entomology,	50	Medicine,	8
Anatomy and Physiology,	44	Herpetology,	6
Anthropology,	37	Chemistry,	5
Ornithology,	28	Bibliography,	4
Mineralogy,	28	Geography,	3
Voyages and Travels,	20	Agricultural,	3
Physical Science,	18	Unclassified,	29

The accompanying lists of donations, exchanges and purchases render unnecessary any special comment on the character of the additions.

In consequence of over-draft of the I. V. Williamson Fund as reported last year by the Treasurer, a special appropriation of \$500 from the general funds of the Academy was made. Orders to the full amount of the Library Committee's resources are outstanding.

The necessity for a binding fund becomes more urgent, only one hundred and thirty-eight of the volumes most constantly in use having been bound during the year.

A priced catalogue of the duplicates in the library has been prepared. To derive the most benefit from the list it should be printed and distributed to those likely to be interested in separate numbers and incomplete sets of periodicals of which the collection for the most part consists.

A large and valuable collection of maps, the extent of which had not been suspected, has been classified and catalogued. It is very desirable that special receptacles be prepared for these so that they may be more readily examined than is at present possible.

Early in the year the title entries of journals and periodicals were completed and the catalogue arranged in the drawers for use. The work has been supplemented by a convenient hand-list or guide to the arrangement of periodicals on the shelves and also by a general subject index.

These lists are all, of course, kept complete to date so that nothing remains to be done in the department of journals and periodicals short of a subject-catalogue of scientific communications which is an undertaking of such extent as to be at present beyond the means of the Academy. Such a work would be an invaluable aid to the naturalist, supplying to him what the superb Index-Catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Office provides for the physician, but it must be either the result of co-operation among several scientific societies or the cost must be defrayed by government appropriation, as in the case of the work referred to, or by an institution possessed of a large income such as the Royal Society of London, to which we are indebted for the indispensable author-catalogue of scientific papers.

Although such work on the periodicals of the library must, therefore, be deferred, satisfactory progress has been made on a subject-catalogue of the special departments. The subject-registry of Voyages and Travels and Geology has been completed and the work is now going on rapidly in the section of General Natural History. The arrangement of the cards will be continuously alphabetical without any sub-division into classes other than that which depends on the initial subject word. It is believed that clearness and simplicity will be thus secured and that those who use the library will be able to avail themselves of the catalogue without the assistance of the trained attendants or pages who are usually required to interpret

elaborate systems of bibliographical classification. If in the future it be found desirable to prepare special hand-lists for the use of students in the different departments of the Academy this can readily be done by copying the author and subject entries belonging to the several classes as indicated by the class abbreviation written on the upper left-hand margin of the cards.

Most of the work here reported, apart from the daily routine of the library, has depended on the continued engagement, thanks to a number of liberal friends of the Academy, of Signor Emanuele Fronani whose efficient assistance the Librarian has pleasure in acknowledging. In the current work of the year the intelligent aid rendered by William J. Fox is also worthy of note.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

EDW. J. NOLAN,

Librarian.

REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The Curators present the following statement of the Curator-in-Charge as their report for the year 1889 :—

The Curator-in-Charge respectfully reports that the general condition of the Academy's collections is satisfactory, except in so far as excessive crowding of material has interfered with the proper display and systematic placing of specimens. This lack of room has been an evil badly felt by the Academy for several years—indeed, almost from the date of the first occupation of the present building. The surprisingly rapid growth of the collections in certain departments has kept far ahead of the Academy's power to provide suitable accommodation, and the time has at last arrived when even excessive crowding has reached a practical limit. The numerous appeals for relief, that have been made from time to time, several of them addressed to the Legislature of the State, and which have been but indifferently responded to, have finally met with substantial recognition in an appropriation of \$50,000 made by the last Legislature. The hope is held out that a like appropriation, to cover the full amount of the Academy's application to the State for the purposes of a new building, may be made by the Legislature at its next session.

With the necessities of existing conditions, and the encouragement of a friendly response from the generous citizens of our